



HF Happenings



618

South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925
www.sarl.org.za www.iaru.org www.iaru-r1.org

August
2014

CQ Southern Africa HF Contests

The aim of the HF Contests is for participants to contact as many amateurs in Southern Africa (refer to General Rules 1.b.) as possible on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands.

The SARL HF Digital contest takes place on Sunday 17 August 2014 from 13:00 to 16:30 UTC (15:00 to 18:30 CAT). The following frequencies may be used 14 070 to 14 099 kHz; 7 040 to 7 060 kHz and 3 580 to 3 600 kHz

The following categories of participation are available - a) Single Operator Single Band; b) Single Operator All Band; c) Multi Operator Single Band or d) Multi Operator All Band. Individual competitors and club stations are encouraged to compete.

The exchange is a RST report and a consecutive serial number starting at 001. Digital contacts count 2 points. Count two points for each area (see below) on each band. Count 2 points for each stations contacted on all three bands. The call areas are - Area 1: ZS1 Western Cape; Area 2: ZS2 Eastern Cape; Area 3: ZS3 Northern Cape; Area 4: ZS4 Free State; Area 5: ZS5 KwaZulu-Natal; Area 6: ZS6 Gauteng, Mpumalanga; Limpopo and North West; Area 7: 3B8 Mauritius, 3DA Swaziland, 7P Lesotho, 7Q Malawi, C9 Mozambique, Z2 Zimbabwe, 5R Madagascar, FR Reunion Island and FH Mayotte, and Area 8: 9J Zambia, A2 Botswana, D2 Angola, V5 Namibia, ZD9 Gough and Tristan da Cunha Islands, ZS7 Antarctica and ZS8 Marion Island. Contacts with stations outside these areas are allowed, QSO points may be claimed but no zone or three-bander points may be claimed.

Awards. Certificates are awarded to the first three places and the highest single band score in each contest. There is also a trophy for the highest combined score in both contests. A trophy is awarded to the CW contestant in his or her first year of CW achieving the highest score. Candidates for this trophy shall state the date of the issue of the licence on the summary sheet.

Logs can be submitted in Cabrillo / ADIF format or make use of the MS Excel Spreadsheet available from www.zs4bfm.co.za/downloads.asp. Send your log to the Bloemfontein Amateur Radio Club by 24 August 2014 to zs4bfm@gmail.com or zs4bfm@netactive.co.za



"Mobile phone switched on and handheld transceiver switched on as well." DO7KAY

August

1 to 3 - Celebration of Flowers, Darling
3 - CQ South Africa HF Phone Contest; SARL Youth Net
8 to 10 - Wine and Food Festival, Hermanus
9 - National Women's day; SARL YL Sprint; SA on Tap Craft Beer Festival, Durban; Apiesdoring Festival Thabazimbi
12 - World Elephant Day
16 and 17 - International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend
17 - CQ South Africa Digital Contest
23 - Radio technology in Action in Johannesburg; Rotary Great Train Race, Middelburg
29 and 30 - Hantam Meat Festival, Calvinia
29 to 31 - Gauteng Getaway Show, JHB
31 - CQ South Africa CW Contest
28 Aug To 5 Sept - Clanwilliam Wild Flower Show

The rules for the SARL HF Digital Contest differ from the three other Digital contests run during the year



Current Summits-on-the-Air (SOTA) activities are announced at www.sotawatch.org
And more SOTA information can be found at www.sota.org.uk and www.zs4bfm.co.za/sota.asp



HF Happenings

Summits on the Air (SOTA) Eastern Cape

Andrew Gray, ZS2G (QSX - PEARS July 2014)

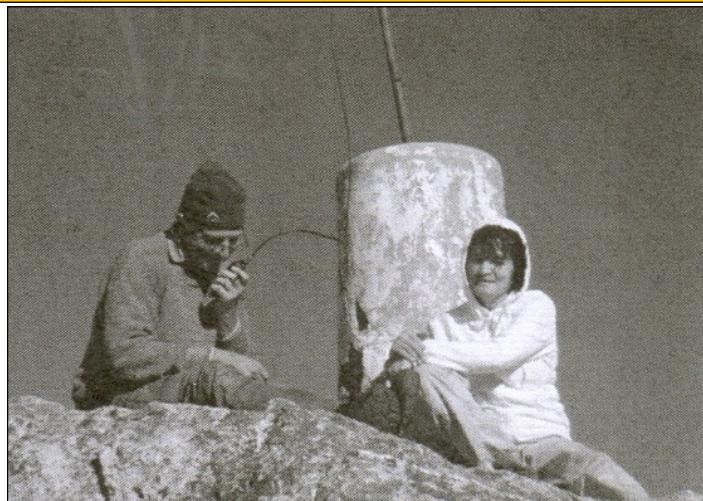
Up to now none of the Eastern Cape summits have been successfully activated since the implementation of SOTA in 2003. This with leaves the EC lagging behind most of the other regions of the country.

There are 16 registered Summits in the Eastern Cape. SOTA website at <http://www.sota.org.uk>

Operating Summits on the Air from the Cockscomb Mountain.

When Mandy, ZS2AV, who is a member of the Voetsak Hiking Club, heard that the club was going on a weekend outing up the Cockscomb Mountain, she jokingly asked me if we should go along. Of course what radio ham wouldn't jump at the idea of being able to play radio from a high mountain top? The problem was that the hike was only 6 days away from when Mandy phoned, and yours truly hadn't walked up any sort of hill in the previous few months. The next four evenings, Monday to Thursday, were each spent walking about 7 km around the neighbourhood to increase my level of fitness.

On the first day of the hike, Saturday 28 June, it soon became clear to me that I was still unfit and that my backpack was too heavy for what we were doing. Somehow we managed to grin and bear it



and 6 hours later we were at the overnight cave high up in the mountains. Altogether we were fourteen people on the hike who spent the night in the cave. It was quite a festive evening around the camp fire, although yours truly went to bed somewhat early.

On the Sunday morning ten people from the group left for the Cockscomb peak and four people had decided to stay at the cave. It took about two hours of climbing to reach the summit and we were there by 10:15. We set up the radio, which was an Icom handheld on 145,500 MHz. The antenna was a

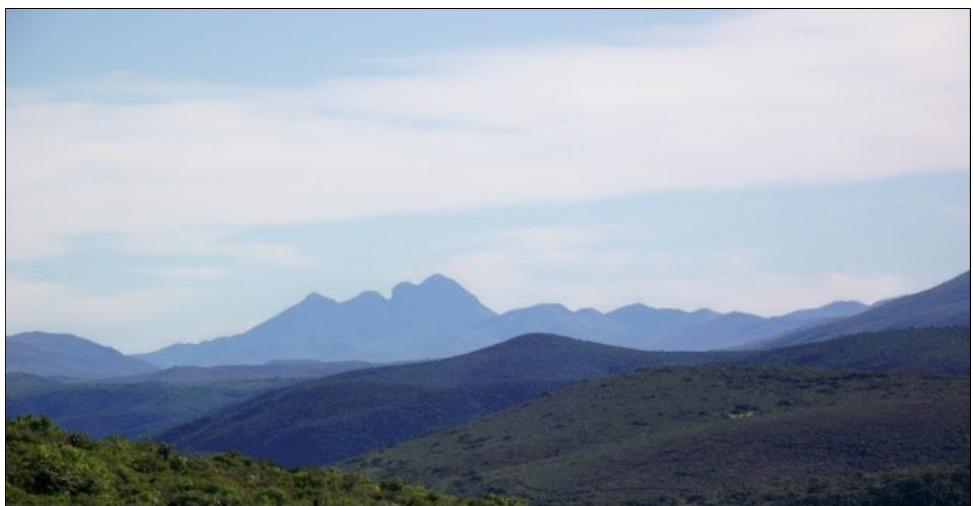
(Continued on page 3)

Code	Name	Alt(m)	Points	Activations
ZS/EC-001	Ben Macdhui	3 001	10	
ZS/EC-002	Kompasberg	2 503	8	
ZS/EC-003	Hangklip	2 086	6	
ZS/EC-004	Gaika's Kop	1 963	4	
ZS/EC-005	Hogsback	1 937	4	
ZS/EC-006	Cockscomb	1 758	4	ZS2AV and ZS2G - 29 June 14
ZS/EC-007	Smutsberg	1 757	4	
ZS/EC-008	Peak Formosa	1 676	4	
ZS/EC-009	Perdeberg	1 651	4	
ZS/EC-010	Menziesberg	1 645	4	
ZS/EC-011	Bloukop	1 623	4	
ZS/EC-012	Tor Doone	1 565	4	ZS2/VA2IEI - 27 March 14 (only 2 QSOs)
ZS/EC-013	Thumb Peak	1 425	2	
ZS/EC-014	Witelskop	1 251	2	
ZS/EC-015	Strydomsberg	1 180	2	
ZS/EC-016	Lady's Slipper	607	1	ZS2DH - 29 June 14

(Continued from page 2)

Comet CHL 25 end fed half wave mounted on a broom handle with a homebrew mounting bracket and a short length of coax. The stations that we worked in Port Elizabeth were Tony, ZR2TX, Colin, ZR2CRS, Beavan, ZS2RL, AI, ZS2U, and Dave, ZS2DH who was operating portable from the Lady's Slipper peak. Ted, ZS2TED, put in a booming signal from Jeffery's Bay. We were lucky to have one 'dx' contact with Abe, ZS1ZS, in Mossel Bay. Barry, ZS2NF from Uniondale was listening out for us by operating portable from some high ground, but unfortunately we didn't make any contact. Thank you to all the stations who gave us contacts and also to Barry, ZS2NF, who tried so hard.

I find a Wikipedia article about Cockscomb - The Cockscomb is the second highest mountain in the Eastern Cape, in South Africa. It gets its name from



its resemblance to a fowl's comb. It is situated in the Baviaanskloof region and the nearest town is Uitenhage. The Cockscomb is part of the Groot Winterhoek range. Its peak is 1,768 m (5,801 ft) or 1,752 m (5,748 ft) above sea level, depending on the source. The current record climb for the mountain is 8 hours, 35 minutes, set by Braden van Breda and his team (including Andre O'Kennedy and Chris Arderne), on the 24th of August 2011.

BUT, the SOTA list on page 2 says something else about Cockscomb!

Special Event - New Zealand to the UK 1924

To celebrate the world's first global contact between Frank Bell, Z4AA, (A sheep farmer in Shag Valley, NZ) and Cecil Goyder, G2SZ, (an 18 year old student at Mill Hill School in London), on 18 October 1924, look for radio amateurs in the UK and New Zealand to activate a number of special event stations. Some of the stations mentioned are:

GB2NZ - Between 20 September and 18 October; from a number of UK locations and all bands between 160–10 m. See QRZ.com.

2SZ - (*) Between 11 to 18 October; from Mill Hill School. The UK spectrum regulator Ofcom has agreed to issue this special call sign for the anniversary week, and the radio waves can be expected to be

buzzing with stations seeking to contact this rare call sign.

ZL4AA - Between 11 to 18 October; from Shag Valley in South Island, New Zealand; at Mill Hill School and Shag Valley, amateurs will recreate the first Goyder/Bell contact, hopefully on a wave-length close to that used in 1924.

ZM90DX - Radio amateurs in New Zealand will continue to operate on all bands.

* Members of the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB), which is the national society for amateur radio in the UK, will be providing the station at Mill Hill School and much of the supporting documentation. The School will be using the facility provided by the RSGB as an interactive learning tool for the pupils.

African DX

7P8, Lesotho. Brendon, ZS4BM / 7P8BM and his family will be visiting Lesotho over the weekend of 15 to 18 August. They have a German exchange student staying with them and are taking her pony trekking. Brendon says amateur radio activity will be holiday style on 40 metres (7 090 kHz).



(Continued on page 4)



HF Happenings

(Continued from page 3)

5E, Morocco. In an ARRAM (Association Royale des Radio Amateur du Maroc) DXpedition, operators Francisco, EA7FTR, Gen., EA5HPX, David, EB7DX, and some of their CN friends will be active as 5E7R from ARRAM HQ club station in Rabat between 21 and 24 August. They will try to be on all bands and modes as possible. QSL via EB7DX.

African Islands

3B8, Mauritius. Paul, HB9ARY will be active as 3B8/HB9ARY from Mauritius Island (AF-049) until 18 August. He operates SSB and some CW on 40, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 metres. QSL direct to NI5DX.



D4, Cape Verde. Carlo, ON4BR will be active as D44TLO from Boa Vista (AF-086), Cape Verde on 16-23 August. He will operate mainly CW on 40 - 10 metres. QSL via home call.

5R, Madagascar. Jack, AI4SV, will be moving to Madagascar with his job in late August, and will be resident there for about 3 years. He has obtained the call sign 5R8SV and will be active from Antananarivo. He expects to be operating mainly on CW on the HF bands, but likes to experiment with others modes. QSL via G3SWH, via the OQRS (preferred), direct or via the RSGB Bureau. There is a Web page that will have a log search at <http://www.g3swh.org.uk/5r8sv.html>. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW and ClubLog.

Winter QRP Contest results

The bands were quite active for the Winter QRP Contest held on 19 July. Eight logs and one check log were received. The results are as follows:

Home Station

Wicus Ross, ZS1WWW, 12 points

Field Station

West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 406 points

Pretoria ARC, ZS6PTA, 182 points

Bloemfontein ARC, ZS4BFN, 96 points, operating from SOTA FS-018

Ultra Light portable field station

Rudi Venter, ZS6DX, 1260 points

Pierre van Deventer, ZS6A, 306 points

John Kramer, ZS5J, 204 points

Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE, 90 points

Johannes Geldenhuys, ZS2JO, submitted the check log. Congratulations to the winners

SARL HF Phone Contest results

Thirty logs were received for the SARL HF Phone Contest held on 3 August 2014. From these 30 logs, I determined that they made 1 993 QSOs divided into 142 QSOs on 20 metres, 1 477 QSOs on 40 metres and 374 QSOs on 80 metres. There were 25 three-banders in these logs. I noted Namibia, Swaziland, Mauritius and Gough Island in the logs, also call signs outside the 8 contest zones. All logs were for the single operator categories, no multi-operator stations.

Thank you to everybody who submitted logs (I have heard that members of a certain club are going to have their legs broken for not submitting their logs!)

(Continued on page 5)

Wen-Do-Lin Traveller's Rest (ZS4D) at Glen, just off the N1

<http://www.wen-do-lin.com> e-mail: mcwilson@telkomza.net

(Continued from page 4)

Three logs were received as JPG files - scans of the paper logs. It makes log checking very difficult. When I returned a set of logs to the radio amateur, he sent me the following, "Just forget it and put it in file 13. This stuff get too complicated. Lost completely interest on contesting." Yet it took me 10 minutes to re-type his log into the MS Excel spreadsheet and he had scored more points than indicated in his submission. My advice - read the SARC Contest Manual!

Okay, let us get to the results.

1st Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 235 points
 2nd Hans Kappetijn, ZS6KR, 182 points
 3rd Karel Bezuidenhout, ZS6WN, 181 points
 4th Roger Jones, ZS6RJ, 161 points
 5th Marinus Willemstijn, ZS6MAW, 155 points
 6th Warren Reilly, ZS4W, 144 points
 Johann van Zijl, ZS4DZ, 144 points
 8th Theo Bresler, ZS6TVB, 132 points
 9th Noel Hammond, ZR6DX, 118 points
 10th Brian Jones, ZS6BV, 104 points
 11th Barry Nugent, ZS2NF, 100 points
 12th Vidi la Grange, ZS1EL, 99 points
 13th Pierre Holtzhausen, ZS6PJH, 95 points
 14th Wally Moll, ZS6BCI, 94 points
 15th Kurt Linsin, ZS5KL, 86 points
 16th Geoff Levey, ZS6C, 70 points
 17th Heather Holland, ZS6YE, 67 points
 18th Garth Wheeler, ZS5GMW, 63 points
 19th Bruce Dunn, ZS5XT, 61 points
 20th Allan Saul, ZS1LS, 53 points
 21st Bruce Rowan, ZS6BK, 43 points
 22nd Louis de Bruin, ZS5LP, 42 points

23rd Dennis Green, ZS4BS, 33 points
 24th Michael Roodt, ZS4BHF, 31 points
 25th Wynand Wolmarans, V51WW, 27 points
 26th Alan Fransman, ZS1F, 25 points
 27th Michael Wolffe, ZS1CO, 24 points
 Joop Hesp, ZS6JP, 24 points
 29th Stéan Snyman, ZS1SGS, 23 points
 30th Johan van den Bergh, ZS6ETA, 21 points

Club competition

1st Bloemfontein ARC, 443 points
 2nd West Rand ARC, 440 points
 3rd Pretoria ARC, 430 points
 4th Soutpansberg ARC, 285 points
 5th Durban ARC, 128 points
 6th Highway ARC, 124 points
 7th Port Elizabeth ARS, 100 points
 8th Overberg ARC, 99 points
 9th Centurion ARC, 94 points
 10th Boland ARC, 25 points
 11th Cape Town ARC, 24 points

2014 - 30 logs; 2013 - 26 logs; 2012 - 28 logs; 2011 - 25 logs

For the SARC Digital Contest (17 August) and the SARC HF CW Contest (31 August) logs can be submitted in Cabrillo / ADIF format or make use of the MS Excel spreadsheet available from www.zs4bfm.co.za/downloads.asp. Send your log as 'your call sign' log, e.g. ZS4BS log.cbr or ZS3BS log.adi of ZS2BS log.xls. Remember to indicate the Amateur Radio Club you belong to - it goes towards the Club Completion.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 11 to 18 August 2014

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 13 August
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
 Classes: (none)
 Max power: 5 watts
 Exchange: RST and state, province or country and NAQCC no or power
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
 Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1.5 x if bug, 1 x if other
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult
 Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 16 August 2014
 Upload log at: <http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html>
 Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA
 Find rules at: <http://naqcc.info/sprint201408.html>

CWops Mini-CWT Test

(Continued on page 6)

Get on the RaDAR....and GO!



(Continued from page 5)

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 13 August and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 14 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 16 August 2014

Post log summary at:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

RSGB 80 m Club Sprint, CW

19:00 - 20:00 UTC 13 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: 100 W; 10 W

Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no and your name

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 20 August 2014

Upload log at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2014/rsprint.shtml>

QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 14 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 20 m Only

Classes: Single Op (Fox/Hound)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

HF Happenings

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 15 August 2014

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.grpfoxyhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 15 August

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 17 August 2014

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

NCCC Sprint Ladder

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 15 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 17 August 2014

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

SARTG WW RTTY Contest

00:00 - 08:00 UTC and 16:00 - 24:00 UTC 16 August and 08:00 - 16:00 UTC 17 August

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op All Band Low Power; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Single; SWL
Max power: HP: >100 Watts; LP: 100 Watts

Exchange: RST and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with same country; 10 points per QSO with same continent; 15 points per QSO with different continent

Multipliers: Each DXCC country once per band; Each VK, VE, JA, W call area once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 12 September 2014

E-mail logs to: contest@sartg.com

Upload log at: http://ua9qcq.com/en/submit_log.php

Mail logs to: SARTG Contest Manager; Ewe Hakansson, SM7BHM, Pilspetsvagen 4, SE-29166 Kristianstad, Sweden

Find rules at: <http://www.sartg.com/contest/wwrules.htm>

Russian District Award Contest

08:00 UTC 16 August to 08:00 UTC 17 August

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: SOAB Mixed Mode - high or low; SOAB Mixed Mode Field; SOAB CW - high or low; SOAB CW Field; SOAB SSB - high or low; SOAB SSB Field; Multi-Single Mixed Mode; Multi-Single Mixed Mode Field; SWL

Exchange: RU: RS(T) and District code; non-RU: RS (T) and QSO no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: RU: 1 point per QSO with same country; RU: 2 points per QSO with same country, different continent; RU: 3 points per QSO with different country, same continent; RU: 5 points per QSO with different country, different continent; RU: 10 points per QSO between Field entrants; non-RU: 10 points per QSO with RU station

Multipliers: RU Stations: Each DXCC country once per band and each RDA district once only; non-RU Stations: Each RDA district once only

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 August 2014

E-mail logs to: rx3rc@rdaward.org

Upload log at: http://ua9qcq.com/en/submit_log.php

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://rdaward.org/rdac1.htm>

Keyman's Club of Japan Contest

12:00 UTC 16 August to 12:00

UTC 17 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: Single Op Multiband; Single Op Single Band (JA Only); SWL

Exchange: JA: RST and prefecture/district code; non-JA: RST and continent code

QSO Points: JA Station: 1 point per QSO with JA station; JA Station: 5 points per QSO with DX station; DX Station: 1 point per QSO with JA station

Multipliers: Each JA prefecture once per band; JA Station: Each continent once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 17 September 2014

E-mail logs to: 2014kcjtest@kcj-cw.com

Mail logs to: T. Shishido JA4AVO, Kuchita 5-48-7-2, Asakita 739-1734, Hiroshima, Japan

Find rules at: http://www.kcj-cw.com/contest/14_kcj_contest_rule_e.pdf



North American SSB QSO Party

18:00 UTC 16 August to 05:59 UTC 17 August

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP or low; Multi-Two - low

Max operating hours: Single Op: 10 hours; Multi-Two: 12 hours

Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 05:59 UTC 24 August 2014

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/naqplogsubmit/>

Mail logs to: Bill Lippert, ACOW, 2013 6th Avenue SE, Austin, MN 55912-4321, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

(Continued on page 8)



(Continued from page 7)

Feld Hell Sprint
20:00 - 22:00 UTC 16 August

Mode: Feld Hell
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: (none)
Max power: Standard: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23 August 2014

Upload log at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/sprints/gridlocsprint>

CVA DX Contest, CW

21:00 UTC 16 August to 21:00 UTC 17 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band - low or high; Multi-Single - low or high; Multi-Two; Headquarters; Teen Single Op; YL Single Op
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RST and type/UF (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each UF once per band; Each country once only
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 15 September 2014

E-mail logs to: cw@craec.org

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.craec.org>

SARL HF Digital Contest

13:00 - 16:30 UTC 17 August

Mode: RTTY, PSK31

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op All Band; Multi-Op Single Band
Exchange: RST and serial no

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 24 August 2014

HF Happenings

E-mail logs to: zs4bfn@netactive.co.za or zs4bfn@gmail.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.sarl.org.za/Document_Store/CONT_20140101_SARL_Contest_Manual_2014.pdf

ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY

18:00 - 23:59 UTC 17 August

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: Single Op Rookie; Multi-Op Rookie; Non-Rookies

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name, 2-digit year first licensed and state, province, XE area or DX

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-rookie; 2 points per QSO with rookie

Multipliers: Each US state and DC once; Each VE province once; Each XE call area once; One DX once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 20 August 2014

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: http://www.b4h.net/arrlrr/rr_scoresubmission.php

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 18 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 24 August 2014

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/>

Next Weeks Contests

CWops Mini-CWT Test 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 20 August and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 21 August
 QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 21 August
 NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 22 August
 NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 22 August
 Hawaii QSO Party, 04:00 UTC 23 August to 04:00 UTC 25 August
 Kansas QSO Party, 14:00 UTC 23 August to 02:00 UTC 24 August 14:00 - 20:00 UTC 24 August
 QRP ARCI Welcome to QRP, 15:00 UTC-18:00 UTC 23 August
 Ohio QSO Party, 16:00 UTC 23 August to 04:00 UTC 24 August
 CVA SSB DX Contest, 21:00 UTC 23 August to 21:00 UTC 24 August

The new Adventure Tuner <http://www.sotabeams.co.uk/adventure-tuner-kit/> by SOTABEAMS is a simple, QRP antenna tuner kit. It is designed to be an easy-to-make construction project based on a bi-directional L network design that results in a wide range of matching options.

Skew - referring to propagation along paths offset somewhat from the great circle route between stations. Skew paths to the south of the direct path are often open in the Northern Hemisphere when the direct path is too northerly to support communication.

How to take care of those expensive deep-cycle batteries is the topic of this Batteries Northwest "Battery School" web article <http://www.batteriesnorthwest.com/batteryschool.cfm?TID=2#ANC2>. (Thanks, Gary, KBØH)

Aluminium pipe and PVC pipe are often fitted together in building antennas. The extreme limits of the two types of pipes sometimes result in the PVC being too small to allow the aluminium to fit. Heating the PVC in some boiling hot water solves that problem since the expansion coefficient of PVC allows it to expand enough to get the aluminium into the heated plastic pipe. (Thanks, Grant, KZ1W)

In a short piece titled, "Toiletries to Tools," Popular Mechanics <http://popularmechanics.com/> for July/August points out that toothpaste - which contains a fine abrasive - clears up cloudy plastic and burnishes dull chrome. Dental floss can be used as a thread locker to prevent a nut from coming off with waxed floss working the best. Nail clippers, as I suspect many of us have learned, also make good wire strippers and cutters in a pinch, so to speak.

Sleeping with the light on!

Jim, AD1C, summarised a recent story in the Science Daily about light and its effects on sleep. "White light enriched with blue is more effective than the standard white light that is found in offices and homes for the purpose of synchronizing the biological clock and activating the non-visual functions that are essential to the correct functioning of the body. The effectiveness of this light does not require high levels of illumination."

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/07/140730120244.htm>



After nearly two years off-line, the Dutch WebSDR <http://websdr.ewi.utwente.nl:8901/> is available once again. The receiver makes the entire HF spectrum visible on a single waterfall display, using a special whip antenna http://dl1dbc.net/SAQ/Mwhip/Article_pa0rdt-Mini-Whip_English.pdf. No log in is required and either Java or HTML5 support is required. To tune to a specific frequency, type it in and hit Enter. Click the *Zoom In* and *Zoom Out* buttons to change the spread of the waterfall. "Click to Tune" allows you to jump to different signals, including an S meter, or use the [-] and [+] buttons, and you can change modes with mode buttons.



The West Rand Amateur Radio Club is hosting its next flea market 12:00 on Saturday 30 August 2014 at their clubhouse in Kroton street, Weltevredenpark, Roodepoort. Everybody is welcome. For more information contact Noel, ZR6DX, on 082 490 9934. So take your fleas to the market!

Light up a lighthouse this weekend

The International Lighthouse and Lightship weekend takes place on 16 and 17 August and it is not a contest, but a fun activity to contact lighthouses worldwide and encourage the preservation of these structures.

At present thirteen South African lighthouses are registered at www.illw.net for the Lighthouse weekend. Robben Island will be active, so you can claim a lighthouse number as well as IOTA AF-064.



History this Week, week starting 11 August 2014



- 1248 - Construction of Cologne Cathedral begun
- 1743 - Earliest boxing code of rules formulated in England (Jack Broughton)
- 1816 - Great Britain annexes Tristan da Cunha
- 1851 - Isaac Singer granted a patent for his sewing machine
- 1868 - Pierre Janssan discovered helium in the solar spectrum during an eclipse
- 1875 - Society of Regte Afrikaanders established in Paarl
- 1880 - Construction of Cologne Cathedral completed (632 years after start)
- 1882 - Queen Victoria receives Zulu chief Cetewayo
- 1893 - France issues the first driving licenses, included a required test
- 1894 - The first wireless transmission in Morse code was demonstrated by Oliver Lodge at Oxford over a distance of about 150 yards
- 1896 - Harvey Hubbell patents electric light bulb socket with a pull chain
- 1900 - First electric tram in Netherland (Leidseplein - Brouwersgracht)
- 1908 - Henry Ford's company builds the first Model T car
- 1908 - The first beauty contest is held in Folkestone, England.
- 1909 - SOS first used by an American ship 'Arapahoe' off Cape Hatteras, NC
- 1914 - The first large public gathering of Boers in South Africa who do not want to support Britain in a war against Germany; British authorities will try to repress this movement, but discontent spreads
- 1960 - Echo 1, 1st communications satellite, is launched
- 1969 - Woodstock Music & Art Fair opens in NY State (Max Yasgur's Dairy Farm)
- 1994 - Space telescope Hubble photographs Uranus with rings
- 2000 - The Oscar class submarine K-141 Kursk of the Russian Navy explodes and sinks in the Barents Sea during a military exercise.
- 2008 - Lee Berger and his nine-year-old son, Matthew, discover the two-million-year-old fossils of a new species of human ancestor (*Australopithecus sediba*) at Malapa Cave, South Africa
- 2011 - First IARU Region 1 General Conference held in Africa opens at Sun City

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL DX Newsletter, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC News, DxCoffee and the Islands, Castles & Portable Operations Bulletin